

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

Too few people have too much control over the media. I do not think it is right that I should see a reporter on scene covering a story of one family's house with a wet basement while the same news show gives protestors in NYC only a brief mention. The public should not have to search to find both sides to a story because only one side is given in the news. Our current media giants are influencing a population that does not know better. We need to put a stop to this media consolidation.